

U.S. Serial No. 10/673,451

ASA-1005-02

IN THE CLAIMS

1. - 8. (Canceled)

9. (Currently amended) A system for detecting forgery of a sheet, said system including a forgery detecting device and a memory device which are connected via a network,

said forgery detecting device including a control unit, a scanning unit and a discriminating unit,

said sheet including information obtainable by said scanning unit and an electronic circuit chip which stores a unique number and is difficult to rewrite the same,

said memory device storing unique information correlated with said unique number, said unique information being unique to said sheet, said electronic circuit chip or a combination of the sheet and the electronic circuit chip,

~~said forgery detecting device including a control unit, a scanning unit and a discriminating unit,~~

said control unit reading out said stored unique number from said electronic circuit chip provided in said sheet,

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said control unit ~~taking out~~ obtaining from said memory device said stored unique information correlated with said unique number and unique to said sheet, said electronic circuit chip or a combination of the sheet and the electronic circuit chip,

said scanning unit acquiring said information obtainable by said scanning unit, ~~obtained from by scanning~~ said sheet, and

said discriminating unit comparing said unique information unique to said sheet, said electronic circuit chip or a combination of the sheet and the electronic circuit chip with said information obtained by scanning said sheet to discriminatively determine whether the information acquired from said sheet is authentic.

10. (Previously presented) A forgery detecting system according to claim 9, wherein said forgery detecting device includes a transmitter and a receiver,

said transmitter is responsive to an instruction from said control unit to supply electric power to said sheet by transmission of an electric wave,

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said electronic circuit chip provided in said sheet is responsive to supply of electric power by said electric wave to transmit said unique number stored therein, and

said receiver is responsive to reception of said transmitted unique number to output the same to said control unit.

11. (Previously presented) A forgery detecting system according to claim 9, wherein said memory device encrypts the information unique to said sheet, said electronic circuit chip or a combination of the sheet and the electronic circuit chip when taken out by said control unit,

said forgery detecting device includes a decrypting unit, and

said decrypting unit decrypts the information unique to said sheet, said electronic circuit chip or a combination of the sheet and the electronic circuit chip when taken out by said control unit and outputs the decrypted information to said control unit.

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12. (Previously presented) A forgery detecting system according to claim 9, wherein said memory device is provided in said sheet having said electronic circuit chip.

13. (Previously presented) A forgery detecting system according to claim 9, wherein said forgery detecting device comprises an output unit, and said control unit outputs a result of said discrimination by said discriminating unit to said output unit.

14. (Previously presented) A forgery detecting system according to claim 9, wherein said forgery detecting device comprises an image processing unit, and

said image processing unit image-processes information from said sheet by scanning the sheet, and outputs a result of the image-processing therefor to said discriminating unit.